

communication equipment, electronic warfare systems, fifteen (15) APX-117 Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), fifteen (15) AN/AAR-47 Missile Warning Systems, fifteen (15) AN/ALE-47 Countermeasure Dispenser Sets, fifteen (15) APR-39C(V)2 Radar Warning Receivers, support equipment, spare engine containers, spare and repair parts, tools and test equipment, technical data and publications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The total estimated cost is \$911.4 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major Non-NATO ally which is an important security partner in the region. Our mutual defense interests anchor our relationship and the Royal Bahraini Air Force plays a significant role in Bahrain's defense.

The proposed sale improves Bahrain's capability to meet current and future threats. Bahrain will use this capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense. This sale will improve interoperability with U.S. forces. Bahrain will have no difficulty absorbing these helicopters into its armed forces.

This proposed sale of equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Bell Helicopter, Textron, Fort Worth, Texas; and General Electric Company, Lynn, Massachusetts. There are no known offset agreements proposed in conjunction with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require multiple trips by U.S. Government and contractor representatives to participate in program and technical reviews plus training and maintenance support in country, on a temporary basis, for a period of sixty (60) months. It will also require three (3) contractor representatives to reside in country for a period of two (2) years to support this program.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16-36

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The following components and technical documentation for the program are classified as listed below:

a. The AH-1 Z-model has an Integrated Avionics System (IAS) which includes two (2) mission computers and an automatic flight control system. Each crew station has two (2) 8x6-inch multifunction liquid crystal displays (LCD) and one (1) 4.2 x 4.2-inch dual function LCD display. The communications suite will have NON-COMSEC ARC 210 Ultra High Frequency Very High Frequency (UHF/VHF) radios with associated communications equipment (antennas, mounts). The navigation suite includes Honeywell Embedded Global Positioning System (GPS) Inertial Navigation System (INS) (EGI) w/ Standard Positioning Service (SPS), a digital map system, a low-air-speed air data subsystem, which allows weapons delivery when hovering, and a AN/APX-117/A(V) IFF Transponder.

b. The crew is equipped with the Optimized Top Owl (OTO) helmet-mounted sight and display system. The OTO has a Day Display Module (DDM) and a Night Display Module (NDM). The AH-1Z has survivability equipment including the AN/AAR-47 Missile Warn-

ing and Laser Detection System, AN/ALE-47 Counter Measure Dispensing System (CMDS) and the AN/APR-39 Radar Warning Receiver (RWR) to cover countermeasure dispensers, radar warning, incoming/on-way missile warning and on-fuselage laser-spot warning systems.

c. The following performance data and technical characteristics are classified as follows for the AH-1Z Airframe: countermeasure capability—SECRET, counter-countermeasures capability—SECRET, vulnerability to countermeasures—SECRET, vulnerability to electromagnetic pulse from nuclear environmental effects—SECRET, radar signature—SECRET, infrared signature—SECRET, acoustic signature—CONFIDENTIAL, ultraviolet signature—SECRET, mission effectiveness against threats—CONFIDENTIAL, target sight system—up to SECRET, Tactical Air Moving Map Capability (TAMMAC)—up to SECRET, Honeywell Embedded GPS INS (EGI) w/SPS—UNCLASSIFIED, AN/ARC-210 RT 629F-23—UNCLASSIFIED, AN/APX-117/A(V) IFF Transponder—UNCLASSIFIED, VCR or DVR—up to SECRET, APR-39 Radar Warning System (RWS)—up to SECRET, AN/AAR-47 Missile/Laser Warning System (MLWS)—up to SECRET, AN/ALE-47 Countermeasures Dispenser Set (CMDS)—up to SECRET.

d. The APKWS is a low-cost semi-active laser guidance kit developed by BAE Systems which converts unguided 2.75 inch (70 mm) rockets into precision laser-guided rockets. The classification is up to SECRET.

e. The AGM-114 Hellfire II Semi-Active Laser (SAL) Missiles are rail-launched guided missiles developed and produced by Lockheed Martin. The guidance system employs a SAL seeker. The SAL missile homes in on the laser energy reflected off a target that has been illuminated by a laser designator. The laser can be on either the launch platform or another platform that can be separated from it by several kilometers. The target sets are armor, bunkers, caves, enclosures, boats, and enemy personnel. The weapon system hardware, as an "All Up Round," is UNCLASSIFIED. The highest level of classified information to be disclosed regarding the AGM-114 Hellfire II missile software is SECRET. The highest level of classified information that could be disclosed by a proposed sale or by testing of the end item is SECRET and the highest level that must be disclosed for production, maintenance, or training is CONFIDENTIAL.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness.

3. The consequences of the loss of this technology to a technologically advanced or competent adversary could result in the compromise of equivalent systems, which in turn could reduce those weapons system's effectiveness, or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Bahrain can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale of the AH-1 Z Helicopter and associated weapons will further U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the Government of Bahrain.

HONORING FIRST LIEUTENANT ROBERT FRANK NIEMANN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize 1st Lt. Robert

Frank Niemann, an American hero from New Ulm, MN, who served honorably in the U.S. Air Force as a member of the 334th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 4th Fighter Interceptor Wing, South Korea.

North Korean forces shot down First Lieutenant Niemann's plane on April 12, 1953, and 1 year later, he was still missing and declared killed in action. Forty years later, new information revealed that First Lieutenant Niemann was captured by North Korean forces and was questioned by Soviet intelligence officers. He refused to answer their questions, emphasizing that it was a violation of international laws to interrogate a wounded prisoner of war.

First Lieutenant Niemann's strength of character in the face of enemy soldiers was truly heroic. While he is still listed as missing in action and his status is still unknown, his family and loved ones are seeking closure. First Lieutenant Niemann made the ultimate sacrifice defending our country. His daughter, Ann, has planned a memorial tribute in his honor on May 12, 2018.

Occasions like this one are a powerful reminder of the contributions of the brave men and women who have donned the uniform in generations past. We must never forget their sacrifice. Please join me in honoring the service and sacrifice of 1st Lt. Robert Frank Niemann.

NATIONAL SEERSUCKER DAY

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, today I rise in recognition of seersucker manufacturers and enthusiasts across the United States. I wish everyone a Happy National Seersucker Day. This uniquely American fashion has a storied history dating back to 1909. The first seersucker suit was designed by Joseph Haspel at his Broad Street facility in New Orleans, LA. Louisiana is proud to have played an important part in introducing the country to seersucker apparel.

This lightweight cotton fabric, known for its signature pucker, has been worn and enjoyed by Americans across the country during the hot summer months. Mr. Haspel said it best: "Hot is hot, no matter what you do for a living."

In the 1990s, Seersucker Day was established by Members of this Chamber to honor this unique American fashion. I proudly resumed this tradition in 2014 in the U.S. House of Representatives and continued this tradition in the U.S. Senate. This year, I wish to designate Thursday, June 7, as the fifth annual National Seersucker Day. I encourage everyone to wear seersucker on this day to commemorate this traditionally American clothing.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

REMEMBERING LARRY LEONG HONG

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable life of Larry Leong Hong, who passed away peacefully on April 20, 2018, surrounded by his loving family.

Born in China in 1922, his family immigrated to Burma when he was an infant, to seek better fortune. Larry was the oldest son of six children; he had three sisters and two brothers. His family sent him back to China to get his schooling and to learn about his heritage and his culture. At age 13, shortly after he returned home to Burma, he left to seek a better future for himself and for his family. He came by himself to America, to the Golden Mountain, where it was believed the streets were paved with gold.

In 1935, when he arrived in America, he found no streets paved in gold bricks. Instead, he found a country in the grips of the Great Depression, and life was hard. But that did not deter him. He worked hard at the family restaurant. Larry learned the value of hard work, determination, and self-sufficiency. He worked in the restaurant until the clarion call of World War II. In 1942 Larry joined the war effort, working at a factory as an engine lathe operator and was promoted to be an inspector until he was called to serve. Larry—also known as Wing Q. Hong—was inducted into the Army of the United States on March 2, 1943. He was an infantryman and rose to TEC 4 as a cook. He served in the European theater, landing with his regiment in Normandy and went on to serve in Ardennes-Rhineland, Northern France, and Central Europe, serving as the acting mess sergeant for the officers. He was honorably discharged on October 19, 1945. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal AR 600-68 and the EAMETO Medal with one Silver Service Star. This patriotic and hard-working immigrant started a tradition of service to his country. All of his descendants and their spouses served this Nation, either in Active Duty as members of the military or as civilians. Upon discharge, Larry returned to civilian life and went back to the restaurant business. Two years after his discharge from the Army, his only son, Kenneth, was born.

He met the love of his life, Annette Moy, at the restaurant in which they both worked, and they were married in 1942. This was a love affair that lasted for almost 62 years, until his beloved wife passed in January of 2000. Even though Larry came to America by himself, as a young teen, when he married Annette, he married into the Moy Clan—very large, very tight-knit, and very loving family. He learned through Annette the value and the strong bonds of family. Larry was devoted to his immediate and extended family. He was generous, strong, dependable, and stable. He and his wife were the anchor for their very large family.

The family took every opportunity to gather together, whether it was to cel-

brate a holiday, to celebrate a special milestone or just to get together for a picnic. They were fun, and of course these gatherings always featured good food. Each weekend the extended family came together at one of the sisters' house to play mah-jongg, while the young children went to sleep to the sound of the click-clicking of the mah-jongg game. Larry loved good Chinese food; he especially loved lobster and Chinese-style chicken.

Larry was a fighter. He met several challenges throughout his life, and each time he fought it—and he won. His love of family, his love of food, his strength, and his fighting spirit will be missed.

Larry is survived by his son, Kenneth Leong Hong—wife Belkis—of Gaithersburg, MD, and his only granddaughter, Denise Williams—husband Dan—of National Harbor, MD.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ROHAN RAJEEV

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize Rohan Rajeev, of Edmond, OK, a young man of exemplary character and talent. Rohan made history as the runner-up at the 2017 Scripps National Spelling Bee. In his first appearance at the bee, Rohan earned his position by qualifying from a pool of over 11 million students from around the world. In 2016, Rohan earned the distinction as the first speller from Oklahoma to win the Association of Christian Schools International Spelling Bee.

Rohan has used his skills to help and teach others. He has served as the first grand marshal of the Eastern Oklahoma State Spelling Bee, a nonprofit competition whose mission is to help students develop spelling and vocabulary skills. He has contributed to the community by volunteering and taking leadership positions in programs and organizations, including Oklahoma Student Voices and Youth and Government.

While his honors are many, I am most impressed by Rohan's humility and courage. He attributes his success to his faith in Jesus Christ, knowing that He has brought him thus far in life. Despite enduring the loss of his sister, Raina, to a severe neurological condition, Rohan continues to honor her memory by dedicating his performances to Raina, and she continues to inspire Rohan to pursue his dreams.

Congratulations, Rohan. I wish you well in your future endeavors, and I know your future is bright.●

VERMONT FEDERAL EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATION 2018 AWARDS

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, on April 27, 2018, the Vermont Federal Executive Association recognized several Federal employees in the State of Vermont with Excellence in Govern-

ment awards. At a time when many Federal agencies are being asked to do more work with fewer resources, it is important to recognize examples of exceptionally good work by members of the Federal workforce.

Vermont is fortunate to have close to 5,000 Federal employees working across the State, and I am proud of their commitment to public service. I would like to congratulate the 2018 Excellence in Government award winners who were chosen for this recognition by their peers in VTFEA.

The awards are as follows: Supervisor of the Year, Amanda Duquette, Office of Contracting, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Employee of the Year, Caitlin Moynihan, Homeland Security Investigations, Burlington Field Office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Excellence in Mission Support, Staffing Management Team, Northeast Regional Office, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Excellence in Operational Execution, Targeted Enforcement Unit/Sensor Team, U.S. Border Patrol, Newport Station, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the FEMA Adjudication Team, Personnel Security, Operations, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Safety/Valor Award, Laurent Giroux, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and John Zavala, U.S. Border Patrol; and Unit Excellence, Operations Unit Mentoring Team, Law Enforcement Support Center, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Once again, I congratulate these Vermont Federal employees for receiving these awards.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

TEXT OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND FOR COOPERATION IN PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY—PM 33

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message